



Fig. E-1

Photomicrographs showing the normal histological appearance of the Achilles tendon in sheep (hematoxylin and eosin). A,  $\times 630$  (bar = 30  $\mu\text{m}$ ). B,  $\times 200$  (bar = 100  $\mu\text{m}$ ).

TABLE E-1 Semiquantitative Grading Scale for the Assessment of Collagen Fibers

Grade	Packing of Collagen Fibers	Orientation of Collagen Fibers
4	Homogeneous formation of collagen bundles, tightly packed	Collagen fibers parallel to longitudinal tendon axis
3	Regular formation of collagen bundles with dense packaging	Collagen fibers slightly angled with respect to longitudinal tendon axis
2	Regular formation of collagen bundles with moderate packaging	Collagen fibers with a moderate angle with respect to the tendon axis
1	Irregular formation of collagen bundles with poor packaging	Collagen fibers markedly angled with respect to longitudinal tendon axis
0	Prevalence of amorphous extracellular substance	Collagen fibers without any specific orientation